

Lourdes Cazares

I've lived in New Mexico my whole life and I am asking that you deny Yucca Growth Infrastructure's air quality permit. I want to ensure the quality of life for the future generations. We can't leave them a broken home. A broken environment. It breaks my heart when I realize that my younger sister will never enjoy the cold winter snows in New Mexico. Because of the drastic temperature changes I have seen from my childhood to adulthood, I plead that you deny any infrastructures that may damage our precious earth and animals. We cannot be destroying the one place we've always called home for some spare change.

Our future is under threat with this proposed air quality permit. A change to fuel cells has minimal impacts on the suffering we will endure as a result of the gas plant's air pollution. To add 10 million tons of carbon dioxide pollution and a vague estimate of toxic emissions to our active and long-time nonattainment zone would be nothing short of blatant environmental racism. Our metro area is currently 16th worst in the nation for ozone pollution and we have received a failing grade on this air quality standard every single year since 2000. We are already breathing some of the most compromised air in the country. It is unacceptable to invite a new source of hyperscale air pollution into our communities.

This has been the hottest summer with El Super Niño threatening various places with extreme heat waves. I can barely pay my electricity bills in the summer as it is. We cannot afford more intense heat. The other toxic air pollutants are extremely dangerous—many of them at very low levels. How are we supposed to want children knowing we will only birth them to a doomed world? One where they can't breath clean air or drink purified water.

What's more is that nothing guarantees that the pollutants will be dumped elsewhere to be found once irreparable damage has been done. This choice will not only impact farmland and nearby communities, but it will also impact your children and the children of your children. You will leave no safe place for your future generations to stand on. It isn't just a concern for New Mexico residents as it is for everyone nationally if this thread continues.

Bunkers and private water tanks won't save you when the world is destroyed.

When the last tree has fallen, when the rivers are poisoned, when the air is unbreathable, your money won't save you.